



FY 16 CPRB ANNUAL REPORT

October 27, 2016

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much."

Marian Wright Edelman



# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Judy Mellen, Vice Chair
Barbara Blair
Alexis Bryan-Dorsey
Joe Dell'Olio
Robert Hamilton
Bonnie Maull, Personnel Officer
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Cindy Montejo
Mike Norton
Valerie Farnan, Esquire Deputy Attorney General (DAG)

# **Operational Staff**

Kecia S. Blackson, Esquire Executive Director

Dana N. Thompkins, M.Ed. Review Coordinator and Training Supervisor

Lisa Cookson Denise Partridge Jasmine Wynn, LCSW Review Coordinators

> Sarah Bowers Administrative Assistant II

Bernadette Bailey Administrative Assistant I

Yusef Russell-Coley AOC Summer Youth Intern



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### **Introduction**

This has been a year of many positive changes, renewed energy and enthusiasm. I was appointed as the new Board Chair in February and the new Executive Director, Kecia S. Blackson, was hired in April, after a long and arduous interview process. Ms. Blackson brings an emboldened vision, renewed leadership and drive to our organization. We have experienced other staff changes including the Review Coordinator Supervisor, Review Coordinator and an Administrative Specialist. Despite these many disruptions, our work continued at its normal pace and high quality due entirely to the professionalism of our staff and dedication of our volunteers. Together with the Executive Committee, the Executive Director, our volunteers and our office staff, I look forward to charting a new path for the Child Placement Review Board, one that will strengthen our commitment to advocating for the best permanency outcomes for children in Delaware's foster care system.

Neal E. Tash, Board Chair



### **Executive Summary**

The following report, on the Child Placement Review Board's (CPRB) activities, fulfills Federal and State mandates to report back to the Honorable Jack Markell, Governor, and the Honorable Carla Benson-Green, Secretary, Department of Children, Youth and their Families (DSCYF), the Board's assessment of DSCYF's child protection efforts and effectiveness. This summary highlights population demographics, placement occurrences, including placements by county and level of care, the most common barriers to permanency, exit outcomes, academic year 15/16 ETV and Davis funding and findings and recommendations to DSCYF. The remainder of the report provides a discussion of the statutory framework and the CPRB function, strengths, a more detailed discussion on the Board's activities and recommendations to DSCYF.

#### Mission

The mission of the CPRB, a voluntary, citizen-based organization, is to advocate on behalf of Delaware's children in out-of-home placements and to identify, address, and resolve systemic barriers to the achievement of timely permanency for these children.

During Fiscal Year 2016, the CPRB citizen panels reviewed the cases of 639 children; 541 or 84% were first time reviews, representing children and youth who had been in care for the first 10 months. The CPRB reviewed an additional 17 cases of children in out of state YRS placements. At the end of FY 2016 (June 30, 2016), 646 children had experienced placement in foster care.

#### **FY16 Volunteer Hours**

- Over 1000 volunteer hours spent reviewing 639 placements in addition to 17 YRS reviews, 16 ASSIST appeals and 1 Mixing review.
- 100 hours were also spent reviewing applications, interviewing youth, and making scholarship award determinations.
- 400 hours spent between the Executive Committee (EC) meetings, community outreach, capacity building and subcommittee work (excluding the scholarship subcommittee).

### **FY16 Most Common Barriers to Permanency**

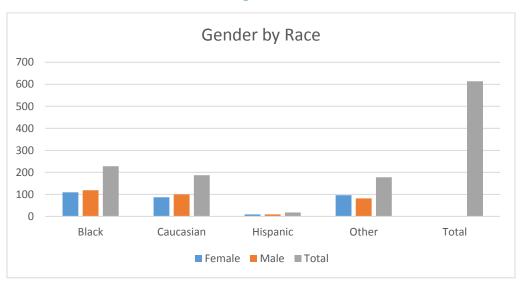
- No relative resources for guardianship or kinship care
- Parents unwilling to participate in case planning or noncompliance with case plan
- Parent housing instability
- Parent income instability
- Parent mental health issues
- Parent substance abuse issues



# **FY 16 Demographics**

- 47.2% of children/youth Female
- 52.8 % of children/youth Male
- 50.2 % of children/youth Black
- 49.8 % of children/youth Caucasian





### FY 16 # of Placements

- 25% of children/ youth experienced (1) placement
- 22% of children/youth experienced (2) placements
- 19% of children/youth experienced (5-9) placements
- 14% of children/youth experienced (3) placements
- 11% of children/youth experienced (4) placements
- 5% of children/youth experienced (10-14) placements
- 4% of children/youth experienced (15-19) placements
- 0% of children/youth experienced (20-24) placements
- 0% (2) of children/youth experienced 25 or more placements
- The majority of children placed were in New Castle County and those children also experienced the highest two levels of foster care, levels 4 and 5.



### **FY16 Exit Outcomes**

• 231 children exited care before having a first or subsequent review.

Exit Outcomes

Adoption 43%
Aged Out 22%
Deceased 1%
Relative Custody 6%
Reunification 28%

Figure 2

# Ivyane Davis Memorial Scholarship and Educational and Training Voucher

• \$149,373 was allocated to 77 students for the 2015/2016 academic year; this represents disbursements made in FY16.

## **Findings**

The state of child welfare is generally sound in Delaware. The following are notable findings:

- 12% of children reviewed by the CPRB experienced 10-44 placements in FY 16<sup>i</sup>.
- Engaging families continues to present many challenges for DSCYF.
- Six common barriers to permanency continue to persist preventing timely and successful exit outcomes.
- Delaware does not have a well-resourced kinship care program.
- The lack of continued social service and economic support makes guardianship and kindship undesirable for otherwise suitable placement resources.
- Instances of concurrent case planning remains low.

#### **Recommendations to DSCYF**

- 1. Decrease the number of multiple placements.
- 2. Continue to develop innovative opportunities to engage with families.
- 3. Develop issue specific programs to address barriers to permanency, i.e. housing instability, mental health, etc.
- 4. Provide additional resources for the kinship care program to increase use and viability.
- 5. Provide resources and support for guardianship as a permanency outcome.



6.	Increase the use of concurrent planning, which remains at 6%. This may expedite permanent Placements for children and youth.



# **CAPTA** and the CPRB

The Delaware Child Placement Review Board (CPRB) fulfills the mandate to monitor, advise and evaluate the effectiveness of the child welfare agency, DSCYF. This authority is codified in <u>The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act</u> (CAPTA) and enacted in Delaware through <u>The Child Placement Review Act</u>, 31 *Del. Code* 38.

We endeavor to support DSCYF in its efforts to eradicate child abuse and neglect, reduce the number of out of home placements and improve permanency outcomes by the following:

- Identify barriers to permanency
- Improve permanency outcomes for children in foster care
- Administratively review individual cases of foster children
- Administratively review cases of other children in care as defined by <u>The Child</u> Placement Review Act.
- Evaluate systemic issues that impact child welfare best practices
- Ensure compliance with Federal and State mandates
- Ensure compliance with the State Plan

The CPRB is the only child welfare citizen panel in Delaware. The purpose of our citizen review panel is a) to examine the policies, procedures, and practices of state and local agencies and, where appropriate, specific cases; and, b) to evaluate the extent to which the state and local child protection agency, Division of Family Services (DFS), is effectively meeting their child protection responsibilities in accordance with:

- 1. State's Child and Family Service Plan
- 2. Child protection standards required by CAPTA
- 3. Any other criteria that the CPRB considers important to ensure the protection of children, including:
  - a. A review of all children and youth who have been in foster care for at least 10 months
  - b. A review of any youth placed in an out of state facility pursuant to a delinquency court order.
  - c. A review of any youth who has been charged or found delinquent by an order of the Family Court of this State or any State, who has also been placed in a foster home, residential treatment facility or shelter with children or youth who have not been charged or found delinquent pursuant to the Delaware Mixing Law, 10 *Del. Code* 1009 § (j)(5).
  - d. The CPRB may also review the extent to which the State child protection system is coordinated with foster care and adoption programs established under Title IV Part E of the Social Security Act.
- 4. Delaware State Laws
- 5. DSCYF Policies, Standards and best practices

### **CPRB Structure**

Our panels are led by an 11 member Executive Committee, comprised of a Chair and a Vice Chair. All volunteers are appointed by the Governor through an appointment process administered by State Boards



and Commissions. The panels and the Executive Committee are supported administratively by an operational staff consisting of an Executive Director, Review Coordinator and Training Supervisor, four Review Coordinators and two administrative support staff. In our 36<sup>th</sup> year, the CPRB remains committed to our mission as we continue to adapt to meet the dynamic challenges and diverse needs of children and youth in care in the twenty-first century.

## **Strengths**

The CPRB is unique in that our panels review the cases of every child who has been in foster care for 10 months or more. In contrast, most States only review individual child cases as an exception to their continuum of activities. Our panels are utilized to review systemic or global issues, standards and policies, and the degree to which they are effective or the degree to which deficiencies may exist. Reviewing an individual child's case is a compulsory part of our function pursuant to the State statute.

In this regard, the CPRB far exceeds the CAPTA mandate which only requires a review of individual cases in exceptional circumstances. We have both the responsibility and pleasure of humanizing mere standards or policies by getting to know our children and their respective situations. We are able to discern or anticipate trends that may emerge before our child welfare partners may identify them. Lastly, we advocate for each individual child as well as alert DSCYF, the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and the Family Court of any issues that may impact a child's physical and emotional wellbeing and barriers to permanency.

For example, in FY 16 we noted the emergence, albeit not necessarily a trend, of a number (3) of youth with low or borderline intellectual functioning (70-85 Full Scale IQ). These youth were within months of aging out of care. DSF attempted to assist in transitioning their cases to the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS). However, low intellectual functioning is not necessarily seen as a deficit appropriate for intervention; so, it is often difficult to secure services. Our panel referred these cases to the Executive Committee, who supported DFS and advocated directly to DDDS on behalf of these youth. We are proud to report positive outcomes: transition to DDDS services prior to reaching the age of majority, in each of these cases. Understanding a particular youth's struggles is paramount to advocating for change.

Delaware's small size enables our panels to know every foster child in the State who remains in care beyond ten months. The amalgamation of all child services under one budget agency, DSCYF, also enables our panels to look at out-of-home placements that are not classified as foster care but have a direct impact on child safety and the relationship to the dependency of older youth. Other types of cases reviewed by the CPRB include Youth Rehabilitative Services (YRS) reviews and "Mixing" reviews pursuant to 10 *Del. Code.* 1009 §(j)(5). Lastly, our panels serve as the arbiters for appeals for the Achieving Self Sufficiency through Supported Transition (ASSIST) program. Collectively, our citizen panel reviews three distinct kinds of cases, the overwhelming number of which are foster care placements.

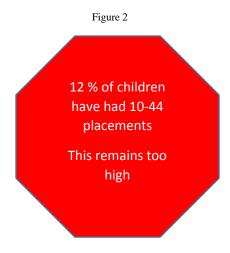
## **CPRB FY 16 Activities**

**Foster Care Placement Reviews** 



FY 16 was the second year the Board implemented the "two tier" review system: paper and comprehensive reviews. Although the overwhelming number of reviews conducted continue to be the full or comprehensive review, case file (paper) reviews are available for certain subsequent reviews or reviews for children who are on a twenty-four month permanency track, hence, some first reviews are paper reviews. DFS attendance is not required at paper reviews so long as the information provided is comprehensive and the panel is able to render its findings and recommendations pursuant to the information provided. Paper reviews are also considered for youth on board extensions or for older youth whose goal is Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA).

A comprehensive review is for any child or youth who does not appear be on a twenty-four month or less track to permanency and typically first reviews are also comprehensive. Also, it can be scheduled by Family Court. DFS is required to attend these reviews and the attendance of all other interested parties, including, guardian ad litem, biological and adoptive parents, educational surrogate parents, therapist, is encouraged. This year the citizen panel conducted 639 foster care reviews. This represents approximately a 9% increase from FY15. Of this number, 541 or 84% of the reviews were unduplicated, meaning they were first reviews of children in care for 10 months. Second reviews are conducted after the child has been in care for 18 months; 98 second reviews were conducted in FY 16. 12% of children have had 10-44 placements; this number remains exceptionally high<sup>1</sup>.



#### Youth Rehabilitative Services (YRS) Reviews

Last year (FY15), the Board reviewed 38 cases; in FY 2016, we reviewed 17 cases. This represents a 45% decrease from FY15. Historically, these cases have not represented a significant part of our workload and the trajectory appears to be trending down as YRS is attempting to decrease out of state placements for adjudicated youth under Family Court jurisdiction and YRS supervision. Additionally, the increased use of civil citations may also have had an impact on the decrease in numbers. The program is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Placement numbers may be unintentionally inflated because some placements represent respite care.



only used for first offenders. On June 30, 2016, YRS had 29 youth remaining in out of State placements. A total of 97 youth were served in out of State placement in FY 2016.

# **Mixing Reviews**

There was one Mixing review heard in FY 16. Pursuant to 10 *Del. Code* 1009; a youth who has been charged or adjudicated delinquent of a crime in this State or any other State shall receive some level of a heightened review to determine if his/her placement is contrary to the health, welfare and general well-being of other children in the proposed placement who have not been charged or adjudicated.

These reviews are conducted by the CPRB after a youth is in placement for two months; they provide a cursory administrative review as these cases have already been granted judicial or DSCYF director level approval. The data appears to represent a downward trajectory regarding mixing reviews; however, some youth exit care before the panel has had an opportunity to review the case and the low number for FY16 is likely to represent a flawed process that may not accurately capture youth who should be "Mixed." CPRB leadership has already met with the DSCYF Mixing Coordinator in order to discuss collaborative training opportunities between both agencies to ensure that these cases have been appropriately identified and sent to the citizen panel for review.

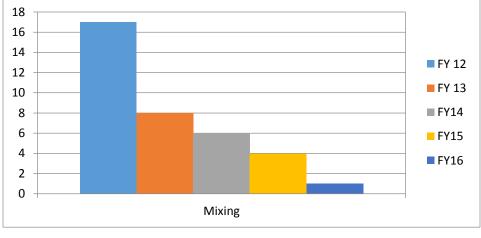


Chart 2

#### **Identifying Barriers to Permanency**

The CPRB is driven by its mission to identify barriers to permanency and increase successful permanent outcomes for children in care. As asserted above, barriers continue to persist making it difficult for DFS to expeditiously find permanent homes for children in care. One comment that we continue to hear from foster families and extended birth families is that they would consider guardianship if there was some economic benefit and social support mechanism. Unfortunately, financial and economic support is discontinued when the child is placed with a guardian.

#### **Legislative Advocacy**

In FY 16, the EC advocated for better outcomes for youth served by the CPRB by engaging legislators to support bills we thought would have the biggest impact on our population. EC members Barbara Blair

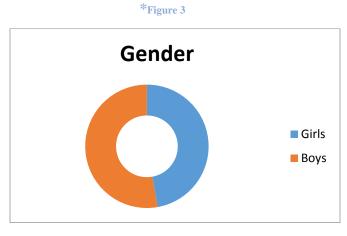


and Joe Dell'Olio led these activities. By participating in these activities, we maximized opportunities to build support with general assembly members and increase our visibility in the community. The following represents the legislation that passed and supported by the CPRB from the 148th General Assembly.

- SB 241 Act to Amend Title 31 Relating to the Child Placement Review Act. The changes related to certain definition changes, board term limit explanations, and the requirement for criminal background checks for all volunteers.
- HB 311 Authorizing Family Court to require DHSS to determine eligibility for youth age 17 for mental health service and eligibility, Family Court can order DHSS adult mental health services.
- HB 310 Amendment of Title 10 to create concurrent jurisdiction to youth who have severe and persistent mental health disorders.
- SB 247 This bill implements portions of the federal requirements in the bipartisan Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act.

## A Closer Look: Who are Delaware's Children in Care?

On June 30, 2016, Delaware's foster care population represented a total of 646 kids in care, 305 or 47.2%, were girls and 341, or 52.8%, were boys.



Girls 47.2% Boys 52.8 %

On the same day, June 30, 2016, the race demographics for Delaware reflected an almost even percentage of African American and Caucasian children, 50.9% African American and 49.1% Caucasian. Figure 1 references "Hispanic" and "other" as race categories; further exploration may be required in this area as "Hispanic" more appropriately references ethnicity and race cannot be determined from the "other" category. <sup>2</sup>

## **County Demographics**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Data capturing race categories may not be accurate as no information was collected on bi-racial categories, "other" is non-specific and race determinations are self-reported.



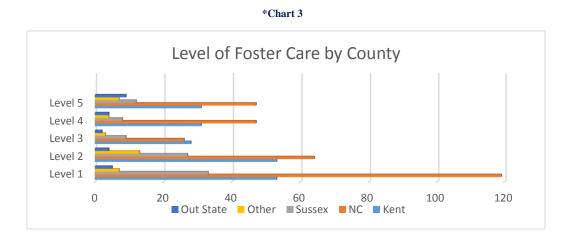
When we look at our children by county, it is no surprise that an overwhelming number of those in care are from New Castle County, 303 or 46.9%. The population density and the challenges faced by urban communities are likely primary contributors to this number. The remaining two counties and out of state placements make up the balance, 196 or 30.3% in Kent County and 13.7% in Sussex County. The remaining children, 58 or less than 1%, represent children who are in foster care outside of the state.

### **Foster Placement Level of Care**

DFS places children in foster homes that are best able to meet their particular needs. Their use of a five level model and an assessment and screening process allows children to be matched with the most appropriate foster family. Levels are based on the child's needs, foster parent's skill set or training level and additional support services. Level one represents the most basic level of care; children with no or minor social, emotional or behavioral issues are well managed with basic foster care services. Level 5 is reserved for children with the most complex social, emotional or behavioral issues. At this level, the program is often individualized; there is only one child in each of these specialized homes and weekly visits from caseworkers are required and foster parents are highly skilled and trained. Intermediate levels two, three, and four gradually become more complex; children who have been identified as medically fragile or those who have had multiple placements may also be placed at this level.

The compensation also progressively increases based on the complexity of the child's issues. The current range is from \$17 to \$55 per child per day. 30% of our children in care are in the highest two levels of foster care, levels four and five.

Data was not queried or analyzed to discern any relationship between the levels of foster care and possible barriers to permanency. However, reasonable inferences may be made about the relationship between the complexities of a child's physical, emotional and behavioral health and permanency outcomes; further exploration is warranted in this area.





## **Coming of Age**

Like many states, Delaware continues to face challenges regarding youth aging out of foster care. Youth often do not have the emotional maturity or the financial resources to transition successfully from foster care to managing their own lives. Delaware uses three programs to support youth aging out of care: Educational and Training Voucher (ETV) program, ASSIST and the Ivyane Davis Memorial Scholarship for those students who desire to further their education with traditional college enrollment or training programs.

# **Davis Scholarship and ETV**

The General Assembly funds the Davis scholarship each year with \$75,000 and the CPRB administers the scholarship along with Federal ETV funds. The Federal government matches all scholarships for eligible youth at 80/20. For example, if an eligible youth is awarded a \$1000.00 scholarship, the ETV program will reimburse the CPRB 80% or \$800 for that eligible student.

A student is eligible to receive ETV match funding if he or she aged out of foster care and is 21 or younger when he/she begins a traditional education or training program. Youth may have until the semester of their 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday to complete a program using ETV funds. Any youth who was in Delaware foster care and a Delaware resident for at least one year before applying is eligible for the Davis Scholarship. The scholarship is renewable annually and awards are allocated based on total number of applicants, financial need, continued satisfactory progress and available funding. Some youth are only eligible for Davis funds; but, all youth who are eligible for ETV funds will also be eligible for Davis funds in order to satisfy the Federal "matching" requirement.

While ETV funds allow us to stretch our scholarship awards, the chart below demonstrates that the funds only cover about one half of the aggregated student need for any given year. This year we had 58 applicants representing 16 schools, including Delaware State University, University of Delaware, Delaware Technical and Community College, Wesley College, Wilmington University, Delaware Valley College, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, Norfolk State University, and Arizona State University. Total funds allocated for 2016/17 academic year was \$156,100.

This year the CPRB held the First Annual Awards Day for students receiving scholarship awards. Certificates and award letters were given at a reception. To bolster outreach efforts, office staff will host a holiday party for students in order to "check in" with them and also to collect first semester grades. Moving forward, we will continue to advocate for a dedicated position for management of the scholarship program and to build our outreach activities so that we can collect data on retention and graduation rates.



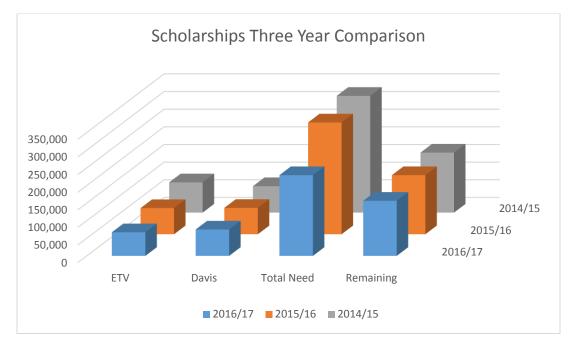


Chart 4

## **ASSIST Funds**

Our panels hear ASSIST appeals from youth involved in the independent living programs. ASSIST funds provide transitional financial support for youth who have aged out of Delaware's foster care system. Youth are eligible to receive funds if they work, attend school or training programs, and remain free from criminal activities. A youth may become ineligible and subsequently lose ASSIST funds for program rule infractions, positive urine drug screens, or incurring criminal charges. 16 ASSIST appeals were heard in FY 16; this is one less than was heard in FY15. Typically funds are reinstated if the youth has demonstrated that he/she has learned from the transgression and they have not incurred any serious criminal charges or convictions.

### The State of Child Welfare in Delaware

Delaware is on the precipice of an historic transformation child welfare policy, standards and service delivery; (See generally, Delaware State Plan 2015-2019, p. 11: "Outcomes Matter" initiative). The CPRB is generally encouraged that the state of child welfare in Delaware is sound in many areas. For example, Delaware receives high marks for our case review system. DSCYF employs a "two prong" judicial and administrative review system; the CPRB fulfills the administrative prong of the system. Delaware also performs well with the "absence of maltreatment reoccurrence", the absence of abuse and neglect in foster care and reentry to foster care (see generally, Delaware State Plan 2015-2019; p.27). Despite the many challenges faced with engaging families, DFS via Delaware Fatherhood and Family Coalition, is making wonderful strides with engaging fathers through faith based initiatives, fraternity and community based activities, i.e. "Daddy/daughter bowling, Amelio Mayfield Mother/son skate, and the like.

Improvement is warranted in the following areas: high school graduation rates for youth aging out of care, better employment opportunities, personal and community contacts for youth aging out of care, academic performance for all youth in foster care and foster care placement stability.



Lastly, the Delaware kinship care program is not well resourced. Although, financial support may be available through Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF), it is income restrictive; so, many relative families who would otherwise be permanency resources for foster children are discouraged because of the costs of raising a child with no support. The CPRB has not engaged in any data collection relating to allocation of Title IV-E benefits and the relationship to permanency. Moreover, DFS does not provide any other social or emotional support for families considering guardianship. This likely represents a significant barrier to permanency.

#### **Moving Forward**

We remain committed to our statutory mandate and mission. Moreover, we are also exploring ways to be more supportive of the child welfare agency by building collaborative working relationships at all levels of operation. At the close of FY 16, the Executive Committee, as well as the office staff, were prepared to participate in a collaborative Strategic Planning meeting. As of this writing, we have emerged from our initial Strategic Planning meeting held on August 19, 2016, and subsequent follow-up sessions, with a clear path forward. The following represents our goals through FY19:

- 1. Improved database collection and management system
- 2. Improve our position in the Delaware child welfare community and beyond
- 3. Improve volunteer recruitment, development and retention
- 4. Outreach and follow-up for Davis Scholars
- 5. Collection of recidivism data for YRS youth
- 6. Develop partnership with Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS) for the collection of criminal conviction data for former foster care children
- 7. Engage YRS to explore the possibility of using Skype for YRS out-of-state placement reviews

### **CPRB Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee (EC) is the governing body of the CPRB; it is responsible for developing policies and providing guidance for the mission and work of the CPRB. The Executive Committee serves as a resource for the panels in their work of reviewing the placement of children under our care. This group of 11, headed by the Chair, consists of 5 elected and 6 appointed members. Cases that prove problematic to the panels are referred to the EC for further review, which may result in letters or other action to Family Court, or other State entities. Additionally, the EC reviews legislation related to our mission and initiates comments or visits to legislators, acts as the supervisor of the Executive Director, updates the Policy Manual, and performs other functions as needed. A Deputy Attorney General is assigned to the EC to help in this work.



# **CPRB Staff**

In FY16, Kecia S. Blackson joined the CPRB on April 18, 2016 as the new Executive Director. Ms. Blackson has worked in juvenile justice and child welfare fields for over 25 years; she is a licensed attorney, holding a license in the State of New Jersey and an adjunct professor with Wilmington University.

Jasmine Wynn joined the team as a part time Review Coordinator in March 2016. Jasmine is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker; she works with children in schools when she is not staffing panels for reviews.

Bernadette Baily also joined the team on June 1, 2016 as our Administrative Assistant I. Ms. Bailey brings over 40 years of administrative support experience to our office.

As of this writing, the CPRB welcomed Dana N. Thompkins. She is a former DFS investigation and treatment worker. As such, she is very familiar with our current review process. Ms. Thompkins left DSCYF as a Family Crisis Therapist in the K-5 program, administered by the Office of Prevention. She joins our team as the Review Coordinator and Training Supervisor; she has over 20 years of child welfare experience.

We said goodbye to Amy Wilburn; Ms. Wilburn retired after twenty-one years of service to the CPRB, first as a part-time review coordinator and then as the Review Coordinator and Training Supervisor. Jessica Johnston resigned from the CPRB to pursue an opportunity with one of our community partners, A Better Chance for our Children (ABC). Kathryn Toole, Administrative Assistant II, also resigned from the CPRB to continue her career at the University of Delaware. On behalf of the Executive Committee, Executive Director, office staff and panel volunteers, warm wishes are extended to Ms. Wilburn, Ms. Johnson and Ms. Toole as they embark on new endeavors.

#### **CPRB Volunteers**

The CPRB could not fulfill its statutory mandate without the tireless commitment and dedication of our volunteers. In FY 16, 43 volunteer panel members spent over 1000 hours reviewing more than 639 cases of foster placement reviews, 17 YRS reviews, 16 ASSIST appeals and 1 Mixing review.

Additionally, two volunteers, Mary Jo Wolfe and Weldon Spellman, along with office staff, Denise Partridge and Sarah Bowers, spent more than 100 hours interviewing youth, reviewing applications and making award determinations for the Davis scholarship awards. On behalf of the EC, the Executive Director and office staff, sincere gratitude is extended to each volunteer as we know that we could not have completed this very important work without them.

New Castle II 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday New Castle III 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday

Anne Kauffman\* Sandra Countley\*+

Brenda Ewen Mary Angerer
Laura Hagood Lou Himelreich
Mary Morgan Ernestine Jones

Kathy Welde Ian Liston



New Castle IV 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday

Robert Hamilton\*

Ruth Grulich Pamela Facciolo

New Castle VI 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Kellie Fresolone\*

Carolyn Karney
Carole Myers

Kent III 2nd & 4th Thursday

Dana Stonesifer\*

Gail Allen Mary Austria Wilberta Lewis Candace Mebane Deborah Ruggles

Sussex I 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Sandra Lord\*

Louise Henry James Lesko Pat Lyons Kathleen Trzcinski

- \* Denotes Presiding Officer
- + Denotes resigned in September 2016
- ^ Denotes resigned in October 2016

New Castle V 1st & 3rd Thursday

Candy Charkow\*^

Caroline Bantum

Arlene Govens

**Bonita Herring** 

Weldon Spellman

Debbie Sydnor

Kent I 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

Cindy Montejo\*

Lisa Brewington

Jessie Cathey

Jean King^

Christella St. Juste

Rodney Smith

Charles Wright

Kent/Sussex 1st & 3rd Friday

Judy Mellen\*

Judith Catterton

Jan Konesey

Ruth Noriega

Sussex III 1st & 3rd Monday

Cheryl Mitchell\*

Alden DuPont+

Rita Nelson

Mike Norton

Ruth Tull



Respectfully submitted,

Kecia S. Blackson, Executive Director

<sup>\*</sup>The CPRB would like to extend a sincere thanks to the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families, particularly, the Division of Family Services, our child welfare partner, and the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services for allowing us to use their demographic information.